



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE JERRY PATTERSON, COMMISSIONER

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PRESS RELEASE

Adopt-A-Beach volunteers cleanup 153 tons of trash

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AUSTIN — More than 9,316 volunteers pitched in Saturday for the 26th Annual Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Fall Cleanup. The volunteers removed 153 tons of trash from 29 sites along 186 miles of Texas coast.

"The turnout this year was amazing," said Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson. "We have expanded our social media efforts reaching out through Facebook and other online media to reach people who really care about the Texas coast and who want to help keep it clean, and it seems to be working."

Volunteers reported finding a wide variety of odd items among the usual cigarette butts, plastic caps and lids, including a mixture of car parts, an intravenous fluid bag, a urinal, a crack pipe, a toilet, a dollar bill and a vial of blood. A few items from Mexico were reported including soda and detergent bottles and also a "Bienvenidos a Mexico" sign found at the Padre Island National Seashore.

Since 1986, more than 439,000 Adopt-A-Beach volunteers have picked up more than 8,400 tons of trash from Texas beaches, some of it originating from as far away as Asia. Volunteers record data on the trash to learn more about the causes of marine debris and to help mitigate pollution along Texas' 367 miles of coastline.

The next coastwide cleanup will be the Spring Adopt-A-Beach effort scheduled for Saturday, April 20, 2013.

The Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach program is an all-volunteer effort to remove trash from Texas' shores. Coastal cleanups are held three times each year and the program's success is due to the hard work of volunteers, including local coordinators who work many unpaid hours publicizing the cleanups in coastal communities.

Our corporate sponsors and local media sponsors provide the necessary resources to help underwrite the costs associated with our annual events. The lead, statewide sponsor for the 26th Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Fall Cleanup was Shell Oil Company and Motiva Enterprises. Other statewide sponsors include: Apache Corporation, AkzoNobel Surface Chemistry, Cheniere Energy, Halliburton, and the Ocean Conservancy.

Local news sponsors for the cleanup include:

Beaumont

KFDM-TV CBS 6, The CW Southeast, and GuidryNews.com, the Online News Station and Clear Channel Radio stations KLVI-AM, KYKR-FM, KCOL-FM, KKMY-FM and KIOC-FM.

Houston

KXLN-TV Univision 45, KFTH-TV Telefutera 67, Guidry News.com, the Online News Station, and CBS Radio stations KHMx-FM, KKHH-FM, KILT-AM, KLOL-FM.

Victoria

KAVU-TV ABC 25, KVCT-TV FOX 19, KXTS-TV CBS 41, KMOL-TV NBC 17, and Town Square Media KIXS-FM, KLUB-FM, KTXN-FM, KQVT-FM.

Corpus Christi

KRIS-TV NBC 6, KZTV-TV CBS10, The CW South Texas, KORO-TV Univision 28, KCRP-TV Telefutera 41 and Malkan Interactive Radio stations KZFM-FM, KKBA-FM, KEYS-AM.

Rio Grande Valley

KGBT-TV CBS 4, KTLN-TV Telemundo 40, and Entravision stations KLVY-FM, KFRQ-FM, KKPS-FM, KNVO-FM.

To learn more about items collected at the cleanup, and for information on the health of the Texas coast, visit the Adopt-A-Beach program Web site at www.texasadoptabeach.org , or contact the Texas General Land Office at 1-877-TXCOAST (1-877-892-6278). Keep up with all Adopt-A-Beach activities by joining us on Facebook, just search "Texas Adopt-A-Beach" to find our page on Facebook and click "like."

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